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OF COUNSEL
WILLIAM G. CONLY

September 3, 2003

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
State of Louisiana
Post Office Box 44275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Hosston Formation, Reservoir A; and Cotton Valley
Formation, Reservoir A; BETHANY-LONGSTREET
FIELD, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, and to the Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana:

1. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize its Hunt 9 No. 1 Well as the substitute unit well for HOSS RA SU29, and as the unit well for CV RA SUG, at the location shown on the attached plats.
2. To authorize Applicant to drill, designate and utilize its Weyerhaeuser 10 No. 2, 3, 4 and 5 Wells as alternate unit wells for HOSS RA SU14, and as alternate unit wells for CV RA SUH, at the locations shown on the attached plats.
3. To approve exceptions to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 289-A-g-3, effective October 7, 1977 (applicable to the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A), and Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J, effective March 1, 1974 (applicable to the Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A), for the locations of any of the proposed wells, as shown on the attached plats, which do not comply with the well location provisions contained in such Orders.
4. To find that each of the proposed substitute and alternate unit wells is necessary to efficiently and economically drain a portion of the hydrocarbons underlying the unit on which it is proposed to be drilled which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well on such unit.

5. To permit the Operator of HOSS RA SU14 and of CV RA SUH to produce the allowables assigned to such units from either the unit well, any alternate unit well, or from any combination of such wells, at the option of the Operator.

6. To permit Applicant to combine downhole production from the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, with production from the Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A, in any existing or future wells drilled on HOSS RA SU29 and CV RA SUG.

7. To designate Applicant as Operator of HOSS RA SU29 and of CV RA SUG.

8. To consider such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289, effective October 1, 1954, and was further defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-A-g-2, effective April 14, 1977. The Cotton Valley Formation, Reservoir A, in the Bethany-Longstreet Field, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J, effective March 1, 1974, and was further defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 289-J-1, effective April 14, 1977.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana 70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data which is not otherwise available from the Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

As provided by the Revised Rules of Procedure, the subject matter of this application does not require the issuance of a pre-application notice; therefore, no such notice has been issued.

Pursuant to the aforesaid Rules of Procedure, Applicant has made a reasonable effort to obtain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom notice of this application is being sent and has attached hereto a list of the names and addresses of such parties. A copy of this letter, and of the attached plats, is being sent to the District Manager of the Shreveport District of the Office of Conservation and to the Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties as shown on the attached list.

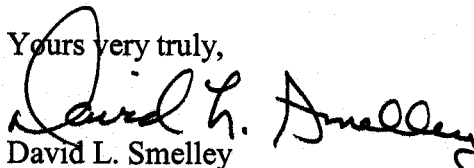
Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing, and of the enclosed plats, at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Bethany-Longstreet Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice

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to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, enclosed herewith is our check payable to the Office of Conservation covering the application fee.

Yours very truly,


David L. Smelley

-- Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encls.)
Ms. Deborah Null (w/encls.)
Ms. Shirley Galik (w/encls.)
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encls.)
Interested Owners, Represented Parties
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plats only)

